

RESOLUTION FOR THE DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TO DISCONTINUE THE DURHAM-ORANGE LIGHT TRAIL TRANSIT (D-O LRT) PROJECT

A motion was made by _____ and seconded by _____ for adoption of the following resolution, and upon being put to a vote was duly adopted.

WHEREAS, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (DCHC MPO) Board is the duly recognized transportation decision-making body for the DCHC MPO, as required by 23 CFR Part 134; and

WHEREAS, the DCHC MPO 2045 Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and the FY 2018-2027 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) meet the planning requirements of 23 CFR Part 134; and

WHEREAS, the DCHC MPO 2045 MTP and the FY 2018-2027 TIP include the Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) project; and

WHEREAS, the D-O LRT project was to be the backbone of a major, regional transit system throughout the DCHC MPO jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, there were many partners that supported the D-O LRT project, including state institutions of higher learning, the North Carolina Department of Transportation, the Capital Area Metropolitan Transportation Organization (CAMPO), Durham and Orange counties, and the City of Durham and Town of Chapel Hill, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, the D-O LRT project complemented the land-use goals of both the City of Durham and the Town of Chapel Hill, and their efforts to develop sustainable, walkable communities that encourage walking, bicycling, and transit in lieu of travel in single-occupancy vehicles;

WHEREAS, due to the emergence of a number of obstacles, the Board of Trustees of the Research Triangle Regional Public Transportation Authority (“GoTriangle”), which is the project sponsor for the D-O LRT project, voted unanimously to recommend on March 27, 2019, that the cost-share partners discontinue planning and design of the D-O LRT project; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Commissioners resolved to discontinue funding for the D-O LRT project on April 2, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Durham County Board of Commissioners resolved to discontinue funding for the D-O LRT project on April 8, 2019; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding these decisions, the DCHC MPO remains committed to supporting safe, reliable, and affordable multimodal transportation options, which includes regional transit, that support the community goals of appropriate land use, affordable housing, job creation, and environmental stewardship throughout the Triangle.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that, on April 10, 2019, the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization discontinues the D-O LRT project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Durham-Chapel Hill-Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Board directs staff to take the necessary actions to remove the D-O LRT project (TE-5205) from the draft FY 2020-2029 STIP.

Damon Seils, MPO Board Chair

Durham County, North Carolina

I certify that Damon Seils personally appeared before me this day acknowledging to me that he signed the forgoing document.

Date: April 10, 2019

Frederick Brian Rhodes, Notary Public
My commission expires: May 10, 2020